

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 13385 181648Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-20 TRSE-00 NSC-05
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R 181637Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9303
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USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS LONDON 13385

E. O. 11652:NA
TAGS: UK MORG MPOL NATO
SUBJECT: MOD ANNOUNCES RETENTION OF GURKHA BATTALION

REF: LONDON 13146

1. IN A SECOND MOVE TO AUGMENT AND PRESERVE BRITISH
ARMY MANPOWER, THE MOD ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE GOVERN-
MENT HAS DECIDED NOT TO GO AHEAD WITH THE PLANNED
DISBANDING OF A L,000-STRONG GURKHA BATTALION.

2. IN MAY OF L976 ARMY MINISTER BROWN HAD TOLD THE
COMMONS THAT A CUT IN GURKHA STRENGTH WOULD BE ACHIEVED
BY THE AMALGAMATION, DURING 1978, OF THE TWO BATTALIONS
OF THE 2ND KING EDWARD VII'S OWN GURKHA RIFLES. IT HAS
BEEN DECIDED THAT THIS PROPOSED AMALGAMATION, STEMMING
FROM THE 1974 DEFENSE REVIEW, SHOULD NOT NOW TAKE PLACE.

3. THE BRIGADE OF GURKHAS, ABOUT 7,000 STRONG, IS
MADE UP OF A BATTALION IN BRUNEI, THREE BATTALIONS IN
HONG KONG AND ONE BATTALION WILL NOW CONTINUE TO BE
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STATIONED IN THE UK.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GROUND FORCES, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS, FORCE & TROOP LEVELS
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Draft Date: 18 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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